

Frequently Asked Questions Commencement 2022 And MakeUp Commencement 2020 and 2021

Congratulations!

You are about to graduate with your associate degree or certificate from Antelope Valley College. Please read the following FAQ document to be aware of important information regarding your upcoming Commencement Ceremony.

The 2022 Commencement Ceremony will be held at the Marauder Stadium on May 6, 2022, at 7pm. Students MUST check in starting at 6 pm.

Due to the overwhelming positive response, we will be having a makeup Commencement Ceremony. The makeup Commencement Ceremony will be held on May 4, 2022, at the Marauder Stadium at 7 pm. Students MUST check in starting at 6 pm.

Getting Ready for Commencement

Grad Practice will be held in the Student Lounge in the Student Center Building (near the AVC Bookstore). The different dates and times are listed below. Grad Practice will be where you pick up your wristbands for yourself and your guests. If you are unable to pick the wristbands up yourself, you can send someone on your behalf but please be aware our office is not responsible for the loss of wristbands once they have been signed out. If you need to arrange a different pick up option, please email commencement@avc.edu and let us know. During Grad practice you will also view the commencement walkthrough video and be able to ask our team any additional questions you may have. Please only attend one of the following grad practices.

- April 11, 2022 4-5 PM
- April 12, 2022 9-10 AM
- April 13, 2022 5-6 PM
- April 14, 2022 3-4 PM
- April 19, 2022 4-5 PM

Cap and Gown

All graduates participating in the ceremony need to wear a black cap and gown. Black cap, gown, maroon/silver tassel, will be sold as a complete set at the Marauder Bookstore for \$57.98 plus tax. (Gold tassels designating honors will be sold separately for \$8.)

NOTE: All graduates must wear an AVC cap and gown.

If you are a 2022 or 2021 graduate, you can swap out the 2022 tassel for either a 2020 or 2021 tassel at Bookstore.

Announcements

Personalized graduation announcements and engraved note cards will be available for purchase through Jostens.

<https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1004778/Antelope-Valley-College/>

Graduation portraits

Ultimate exposures will be on campus to take graduate photos. you must register for a sitting appointment on their Web page at www.UltimateExposures.com

Class rings

Jostens will be offering graduates AVC rings for purchase. You may visit their website at:

<https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1004778/Antelope-Valley-College/>

Admission

There is limited seating for guests. Wristbands will be given to graduates for attending guests. Guests will only be admitted to the stadium on the day of graduation if they are wearing their guest designated wristband. Children under 2 years of age are not required to wear a wristband. Graduates are responsible for informing guests of the following items:

Commencement Ceremony protocols

Please note that any items that cause noise or block the view of guests will not be allowed into the ceremony. You will be asked to return the items to your car or dispose of them before you can enter the stadium.

Examples of items not allowed in the stadium: Balloons, Posters, Noisemakers, Clappers, Bells, Whistles, Banners or signs, beach balls, selfie sticks, umbrellas, lasers, silly string, confetti, etc.

***It is the responsibility of the graduate to inform their guests of these guidelines.**

The Day of Commencement

Dressing for the day

Don't forget your black cap and gown. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Wear flat comfortable shoes. Leave all valuables at home except for your cell phone. You will need your phone to register with Ultimate exposure but please make sure it remains on silent as to not disturb others during the ceremony.

Check-In

All graduates must check in to receive a name card (look for "Graduates Check in Here" to line up beginning at 6pm. Graduates will line up on a first come, first line-up situation.

The Ceremony

The procession will begin promptly at 7 pm regardless of weather conditions. Please arrive at a reasonable time beforehand.

After the procession and upon arriving at your chair, please remain standing until you are instructed to sit down. You will stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the

National Anthem. Guests on the platform will make remarks followed by the address from the commencement keynote speaker.

Following the speakers, your degree will be conferred at the direction of the commencement marshalls, the first row will be directed to the stage. When your turn comes, move up to the stage area and hand your name card to the reader. After your name is called, proceed across the stage and receive your degree cover, exit the stage, stop to have your picture taken, return to your row and be seated.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, all graduates will be asked to stand and move their tassels from right to left signifying graduation. The commencement marshals will direct you to march out in reverse order to the reception area. All graduates will pass through Path of Scholars created by the faculty. Family and friends will not be allowed to interfere with the ceremony. All graduates **MUST** remain for the entire ceremony and all graduates will march off the field together.

There are no EXCEPTIONS.

Water

A bottle of water will be provided for graduates. Please encourage your guests to bring their own water. Also, don't forget sunscreen.

Commencement Graduate Photos

At graduate check-in, you will receive a card with a QR code associated with your personal information. You will need to hand that card to the reader who will read your name during the ceremony. As you cross the stage, Ultimate Exposures will take your photograph and will mail commencement day proofs for your review and possible purchase.

Length of Ceremony

The Commencement Ceremony is expected to last about 90 minutes, so please plan accordingly.

Disabilities Accommodation

Upon request three business days before the event, reasonable accommodation will be provided to facilitate the participation of covered individuals with disabilities. Call (661)-722-6360 (voice). Handicapped parking is located at the main gate of Marauder Stadium, park in this area. Please call Louis Lucero at (661)-722-6300, ext. 6507 for more details or discuss any of your other special needs.

Parking

Parking is free and available at the Marauder Stadium as well as surrounding AVC parking lots on campus.

Following commencement

Alumni association

Once you graduate, you will want to be part of this exciting group. The alumni association will enable you to stay connected, get news and information about your alma mater and your classmates. Alumni and friends website: <https://www.avc.edu/alumni>

Cap and gown donations

If you would like to donate your cap and gown to AVC and receive a tax benefit, you can do so by turning them into the student development and services office (SSV 180) the week following commencement.

If you have any other questions, please contact my office at (661)-722-6300, ext.6354, or bring them with you to the Grad Practice; and we will work out all the details at that time.

Congratulations again, and see you at Grad Practice!

Dr. Jill Zimmerman

Dean of Student Life and Services

Graduation chairperson